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# PEST MANAGEMENT REPORT

*NEWS ABOUT INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT IN GLASSCOCK, REAGAN AND UPTON COUNTIES*

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## GENERAL SITUATION

Scattered thunderstorms this past weekend resulted in rainfall from 0-.75 inches and damaging hail in several parts of the area. Approximately 5000 acres of cotton were lost to hail. Most folks are wrapping up planting except for the mud holes. Warmer temperatures have allowed cotton to make a stand in 4-5 days and grow rapidly.

Saltmarsh caterpillars are still in the area, but not causing too many problems and thrips are still a threat in the small cotton.

## SCOUTING PROGRAM

The scouts attended scout school this week in San Angelo and Taylor and are now locating fields to scout. When they contact you, please help them locate the field you want to check so we are not in the wrong place. They will be counting thrips and other occasional pests.

## SCOUT SCHOOL

We had a successful scout school on June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. We would like to thank Doug Jost with Monsanto for sponsoring a meal for all participants on Monday evening.

## WHEAT HARVEST

Wheat harvest is well underway with yields ranging from 20-55 bushels per acre. The better yields are later planted, slower maturing varieties or grazed fields. Other, more heavily freeze damaged fields will yield even lower.

## BOLL WEEVIL

Seven boll weevils were captured last week and 5 this week in area traps. These were found within a 3 mile radius of Garden City and on Highway 87 in Northeast Glasscock County, The eradication people will be watching these areas closely for squaring to begin and apply treatments where needed.

## IPM INTERN

Jordan Coburn is the IPM intern that will be working with me this summer. Jordan recently received a B.S. in Entomology from Texas A&M and will be going back to graduate school this fall. His primary responsibility will be learning about cotton production, insect management and working on demonstration & research projects. Most of you will be meeting him through the summer.

## THRIPS

Thrips are moving into cotton from wheat and other weed and grass hosts. Several fields I have looked at this week still have only slightly damaged new true leaves and with rapid growth, may be fine. I would continue to check closely those fields near wheat and pasture margins. The economic threshold for thrips is 1 thrip per true leaf so if it is 2 true leaf cotton, the threshold is 2 thrips per plant.

## SALTMARSH CATERPILLARS

They continue to migrate around in the area, but so far haven't caused much problem on cotton. This is probably a combination of Bt cotton and green weeds in pastures. The have caused problems on sunflowers in several fields.

Control with pyrethroids has been excellent.

### JUMBO GRASSHOPPER

While returning from scout school this week, I noticed jumbo grasshoppers on the highway in various locations from Brady to Sterling City. I have not seen any in our area, but would not be surprised to see a few in spots. One report of a few on the highway north of Garden City was received.

### EPA APPROVES NATURAL REFUGE FOR BOLLGARD II COTTON

St. Louis (June 4, 2007) - Monsanto Company announced today that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved a natural refuge option for its Bollgard II insect-protected cotton planted from Texas east, excluding some Texas counties. Now cotton producers in these eligible regions can take advantage of non-cotton crops and other plants as a refuge for Bollgard II cotton. A structured, non-Bt cotton refuge continues to be required as part of an insect resistance management (IRM) program for Bollgard cotton in all states, and for Bollgard II cotton planted outside eligible areas.

### HEAT UNITS

Heat units averaged 17 per day the past week. Heat units since 5-15, 5-25, 6-4 are compared with last year and a five year average in the table below.

DATE	5/15	5/25	6/4
2007	247	188	48
2006	429	261	69
5 YEAR AVERAGE	362	218	55

### WEATHER DATA

Weather data for the past two weeks is included in the table that follows:

DATE	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	RAIN	AVG WIND SPEED	SOIL TEMP
5/23/07	81	68	0	14	71
5/24/07	82	63	0	13	71
5/25/07	76	60	0	8	72
5/26/07	80	57	0	4	72
5/27/07	79	59	0	4	73
5/28/07	85	57	0.04	6	73
5/29/07	94	62	0	8	74
5/30/07	88	66	0	10	75
5/31/07	89	66	0	11	77
6/1/07	89	68	0	14	77
6/2/07	86	68	0	8	77
6/3/07	89	62	0.65	8	78
6/4/07	85	58	0	5	76
6/5/07	90	60	0	6	76
6/6/07	95	67	0	16	77

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